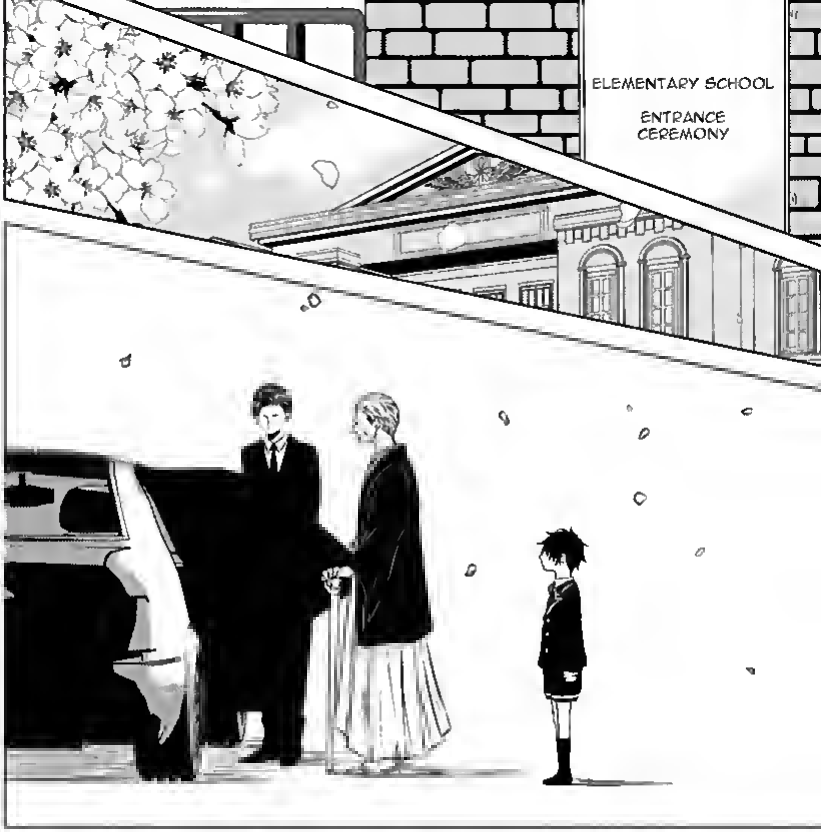
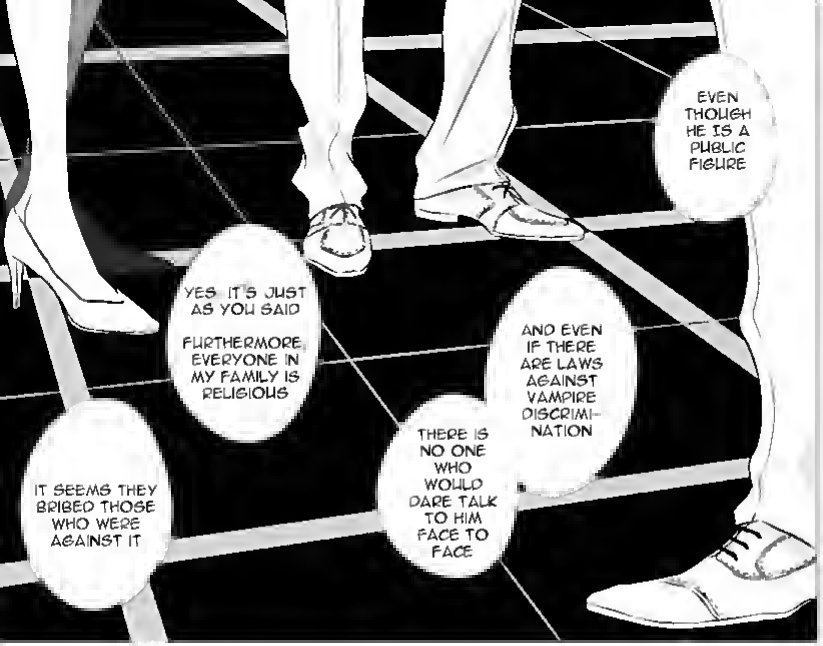
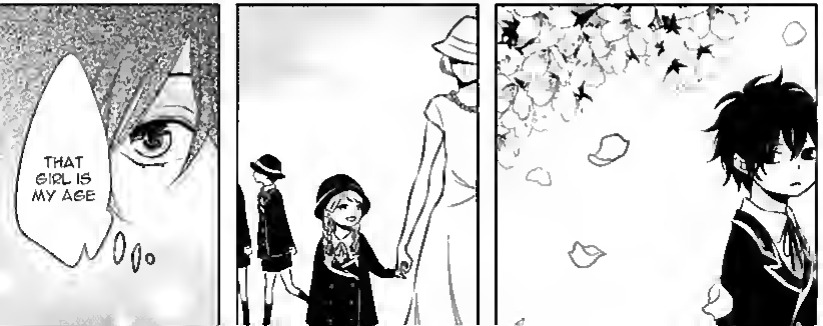
花と純潔
第3話
桂小町
KOMACHI KATSURA


ELEMENTARY SCHOOL
ENTRANCE CEREMONY

WHY ARE HE LEAVING SO SOON?


EVEN THOUGH HE IS A PUBLIC FIGURE
AND EVEN IF THERE ARE LAWS AGAINST VAMPIRE DISCRIMI-NATION
THERE IS NO ONE WHO WOULD DARE TALK TO HIM FACE TO FACE
YES. IT'S JUST AS YOU SAID
FURTHERMORE, EVERYONE IN MY FAMILY IS RELIGIOUS
IT SEEMS THEY BRIBED THOSE WHO WERE AGAINST IT

HAHA
WELL, NO ONE WOULD SAY NO TO MONEY AFTER ALL
THE COUNCIL DID NOT TURN DOWN THE DONATIONS THEY GAVE


THAT GIRL IS MY AGE

SHE LOOKS PLUMP

MONSTER
CHITOSE,

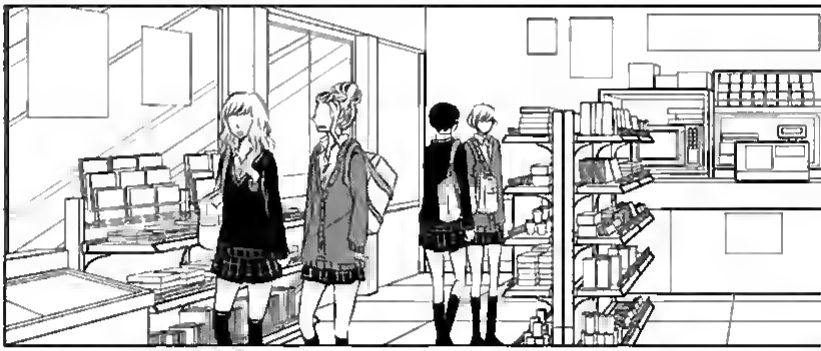
TAKE PRIDE IN YOUR LINEAGE
REMEMBER YOU ARE A PURE BLOOD VAMPIRE
EVERYTHING THEY SAY IS NOTHING BUT THE NOISY CRIES OF ANIMALS. NO DIFFERENT FROM THOSE THAT PIGS AND COWS

Chir
.....

GO AWAY

DAMN!
Ah.....
.....
.....

WHY DID I HAVE TO DREAM OF THAT AT AT TIME LIKE THIS?



SALE
!
FOR ME TO COME SHOPPING TODAY
IT MUST HAVE BEEN FATE

AH! YOU ARE THAT GUY'S SISTER...
YES!
WAIT!
WAIT!
KURO-SAWA?
AH! HE'S OUR BUTLER
UHM
ABOUT YESTERDAY
YOU'RE MY BIG BORTHER'S HUMAN FRIEND, RIGHT?
KUROSAWA TOLD ME THAT YESTERDAY YOU CAME TO OUR HOUSE
you have one?
BUTLER!?
THAT'S WHY I THOUGHT IT WAS PROBABLY YOU...

IT'S THE FIRST TIME THAT MY BROTHER HAS BROUGHT A HUMAN FRIEND HOME
I WAS REALLY SURPRISED

AH!
.....
THAT'S RIGHT
TRY THESE

THANKS TO A FRIEND OF MINE THEY BECAME POPULAR SO, FROM TIME TO TIME, I BRING SOME TO SCHOOL
THESE ARE THE FLOWERS WE CULTIVATE AT HOME
I ADDED SUGAR TO THEM

NO, IT'S NOTHING LIKE THAT
THANK YOU VERY MUCH
UHH
PERHAPS YOU DON'T LIKE SWEET THINGS?
.....
YOU HAVE MANY
HUMAN FRIENDS
ANNA~
AH! SORRY
.....
WAIT FOR ME JUST A BIT MORE
SO NEITHER VAMPIRES NOR HUMANS CARE THAT MUCH ABOUT ME
IT'S BECAUSE I'M ONLY HALF-VAMPIRE

IT'S NOT THAT BAD
I MEAN ...
HOW SHOULD I PUT IT?
SHE DOESN'T SEEM TO BE CONVINCED HERSELF
WELL,
HIS PERSONALITY
MY BROTHER HAS CHANGED A BIT
BUT HE'S NOT A BAD PERSON
ARE SUPERIOR TO OTHERS BUT...
THERE'S THE BELIEF THAT PURE BLOOD VAMPIRES
AMONG OUR CLAN
THEY'RE NOTHING BUT A BUNCH OF SMUG BASTARDS!
HONESTLY

THAT'S WHY HE SEEMS LIKE A BAD AND CRUEL GUY'
MY BROTHER IS OUR FAMILY'S HEIR SO HE HAS A LOT OF PRESSURE ON HIM AND THAT'S ALSO THE REASON HE THINKS HE'S SUPERIOR
HOWEVER, HE PUSHES HIMSELF TOO HARD BECAUSE THAT'S HOW VAMPIRES ARE, THEIR SENSE OF DUTY AND THEIR PRIDE BECOMES A BURDEN THAT THEY
I KNOW
BUT HE ALSO HAS A GOOD SIDE
IT'S JUST LIKE YOU SAY

TAKE CARE OF MY BROTHER
PLEASE BECOME GOOD FRIENDS
I HAVE TO GO NOW
SORRY FOR TALKING TO YOU SO SUDDENLY
You took too long!
SORRY
AT FIRST I COULDN'T EVEN SAY HELLO
GOOD FRIENDS

JUST BEING NEAR HIM MADE ME HAPPY
AND LITTLE BY LITTLE MY FEELINGS INCREASED
BUT
...

THAT
IS OVER NOW
see you later
YAYOI
DON'T JUST DISAPPEAR WITHOUT TELLING ME

.....
THIS MORNING
I RAN INTO YOUR SISTER
ANNA?
YES
SHE ASKED ME TO TAKE CARE OF YOU
WHAT?
SINCE YOU DON'T HAVE FRIENDS ...
AH?!
I HAVE LOTS OF FRIENDS!!
EH?!
YOU DOPE
YOU LITTLE

YOU DON'T WANT
HUMAN FRIENDS?

I DON'T HAVE FRIENDS HERE BUT I CAN MAKE AS MANY AS I WANT
BUT I'M NOT INTERETED TO BE FRIENDS WITH ANYONE AT THIS HUMAN SCHOOL

I AM NOT INTERESTED IN THE LEAST

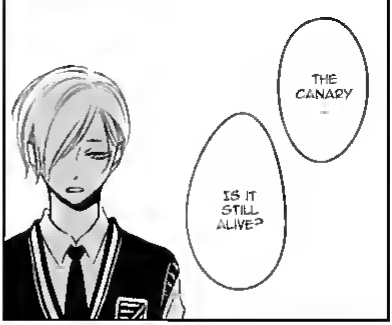
NO
YOU TOLD HER THAT YOU WOULD BECOME MY FRIEND?
I NEVER WANTED TO BE YOUR FRIEND TO BEGIN WITH
I WAS HOPING I COULD BE YOUR LOVER
EVER SINCE WE DID IT FOR THE FIRST TIME

I WANTED YOU TO BE
THE FIRST ONE
I ALWAYS
WANTED TO MAKE LOVE WITH THE PERSON I LOVED
I STILL WANT THAT
THAT'S WHY
RIGHT NOW I

I LOVE YOU, CHITOSE

OH,
I SEE
CHITOSE

THEN, WOULD YOU GIVE IT TO ME?


THE CANARY ...
IS IT STILL ALIVE?

YEAH

IT'S NOT ABOUT THAT, THOUGH
THIS IS JUST MY OWN SELFISHNESS

YOU'RE RIGHT

AGAIN WITH THE DOUBLE STAN-DARDS?
YOU KEEP SAYING THINGS THAT MAKE NO SENSE

COME GET IT AFTER SCHOOL

*DRIED SEASONING FOR COOKED RICE CONSISTING OF EGG FLAKES AND SEAWEED

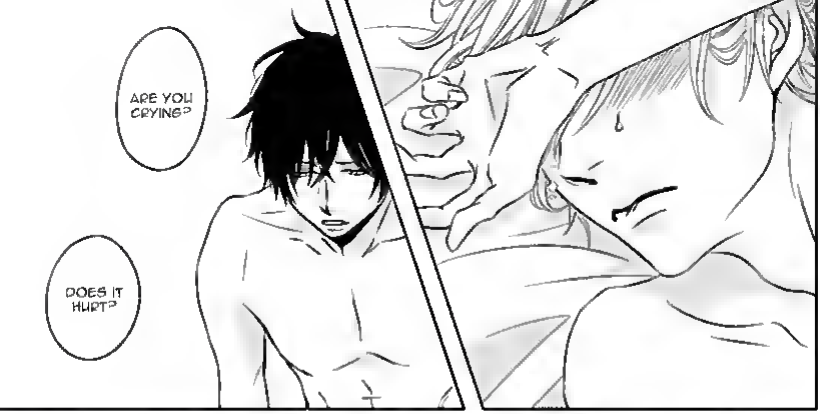
such bad taste
BOTH ARE BASICALLY THE SAME
BUT IT LOOKS MORE LIKE NORITAMA
IT EVEN LOOKS AS IF IT HAS BEEN SPRINKLED WITH FURIKAKE
I'll put you here for now

IF YOU'RE GOING TO KEEP IT
I WILL NEED SOME OTHER KIND OF FOOD
"FOOD"
I KNEW IT ALREADY
...
TO HIM
...

BUT THIS WILL BE THE LAST TIME

FEEDING HAS NOTHING TO DO WITH LOVE
ALRIGHT

FROM NOW ON IF YOU WANT BLOOD
YOU'LL HAVE TO ASK SOMEONE ELSE
—YAYOI?

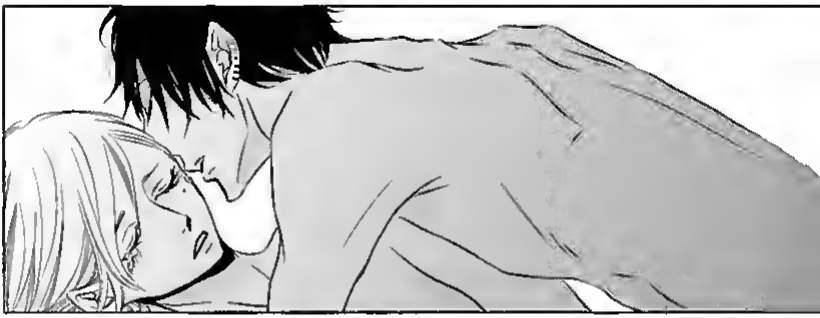


CHITOSE IS TOO KIND

I WAS HOPING HE WOULD BE CRUEL TO ME BUT

SINCE THIS IS THE LAST TIME

UP UNTIL NOW, I THOUGHT THAT THE MOST IMPORTANT THING



AND WHEN HE WAS KIND TO ME, I FELT LIKE I WAS IN HEAVEN
WAS TO BE NEAR HIM
THAT MADE ME HAPPY

I'M JUST A SELFISH HUMAN
I WON'T GET TO EXPERIMENT THAT SENSAION ANYMOPE

AT LEAST HE DIDN'T DRINK THE CANARY'S BLOOD
YAYOI,
DON'T CRY
I'LL DO IT MORE SLOWLY
WHY DO YOU WANT ME SO MUCH?
"I CAN TELL BY THE WAY YOU BLOOD TASTES."
I WILL DRINK NOW

THE TONGUE THAT DRINKS MY BLOOD IN SUCH A WAY
...
IN THE FUTURE
...
WHAT KIND OF FLAVORS WILL IT TASTE, I WONDER
TO BE CONTINUED